



January 23, 2002

Dear HVAC Manufacturers and Other Interested Parties:

This letter is to inform you, as an interested party, that the ENERGY STAR[®] specification for residential air-source heat pumps (ASHP) and central air conditioners (Version 3.0) has been finalized. The public announcement of this final specification will take place within the next several weeks. Your valuable feedback and input throughout the development process has been integral to the design of the specification and is very much appreciated.

The new energy performance specification for ENERGY STAR is 13 SEER/11 EER/8.0 HSPF for split systems and 12 SEER/10.5 EER/7.6 HSPF for single package equipment.

This specification will become effective October 1, 2002. At that time all ENERGY STAR labeled central air conditioner and ASHP products shipped from a manufacturer must meet the new specifications. Any questions regarding the specification should be directed to Rachel Schmeltz at (202) 564-9124 or via e-mail at schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov.

I am also pleased to announce that in April 2002, in partnership with manufacturers, retailers, contractors, and utilities, EPA will launch a national cooling campaign promoting the replacement of aging cooling products with high-efficiency ENERGY STAR labeled models. Questions regarding the planning and implementation of this national promotion should be directed to Jill Vohr at vohr.jill@epa.gov.

Thank you very much to those who participated in the specification revision process. We look forward to working with you on the national cooling promotion and on other projects in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Hogan", is written over a light gray circular background.

Kathleen Hogan
Director, Climate Protection Partnerships Division
